

Road to False Creek

Started 1859: **Trail to False creek; Road to English Bay; Road to Outer Anchorage (Jerry's Cove/Jericho); False Creek Trail; Moody Path; Military Trail;** relocated 1885, as:

Granville Trunk Road; Westminster-Vancouver Trunk Road; New Road; Vancouver Road; and finally, Kingsway.

This work suffered from shortage of government funds and a succession of inexperienced contractors. It never reached its original destination on English Bay, but was diverted to False Creek and eventually crossed it at the Narrows, now Main Street. Thus, it connected New Westminster with Burrard Inlet at what became Granville, later the City of Vancouver. It left Douglas (Eighth) Street near New Westminster at 14th Avenue.

The initial contract was dated 10 October 1859, but the trail was not open to through traffic until 1861. The original contractor, a loose partnership, was still claiming extra payment in January of 1865.⁸

The trail was sufficiently busy, especially with the advent of the Canadian Pacific Railway, that it was entirely relocated and rebuilt as a "trunk" road in 1885/86. The general concept of the old trail was followed, but the new alignment intersected the old winding trail in only three places.⁹ The new road left New Westminster by 12th Street, parallel to and west of Eighth Street.

Pitt River Road

The North East Road

This road gave access to the farming lands north and east of New Westminster as far as Pitt River. It was first opened in 1862. It branched from the foot of North Road, not far from the Royal Engineer Camp, and was built in several stages.

The first third of Pitt River Road is now Brunette Avenue which follows the old line until it is superseded by the new, widened, Lougheed Highway at the tip of the Cape Horn hill. The next third runs from Cape Horn into the grounds of Riverview hospital, then turns sharply east to cross the Lougheed Highway, the C.P. Rail tracks and the Coquitlam River, as Pitt River Road.

The final third makes a loop round the north end of Mary Hill (named for Col. Moody's wife) before ending unceremoniously in the bush on the bank of Pitt River. The road is blacktop all the way.
